

Jamul-Dulzura

Community Planning Group

Unincorporated Area of the County of San Diego

FINAL MINUTES

July 2, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER 7:00 pm.
2. ROLL CALL

Present: Kevin May, Preston Brown, Michael Casinelli, Thomas Gray, Lisa Hodgson, Ed Mollen, Darla Kasmedo, Courtney Etnyre, Dan Neirinckx, Eve Nasby,
Guests: Jon Parker
Excused: Steve Wragg, Janet Mulder, Paul Dombkowski
Vacant Seats: 5, 13
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes for June 4 and 17, 2024.
Courtney moved that we approve the Minutes.
Motion passed unanimously.
4. OPEN FORUM
 - **Zachery Svelling** contacted **Eve Nasby** by email. He lives on Jamul Highland Road next to the problem house and said that, “There has been zero improvement over this last year and it is getting worse. Tons of junk is being delivered every week.” **Michael Casinelli** added that it has been years of getting worse. **Miguel Voss** emailed us and said that for 3025 Jamul Highlands, Code Enforcement is being handled by **James Gray**. They both walked through the property with the owner. **Michael** responded that he would pass this information along. From two years ago, on Google Earth, you can see the accumulation of the junk on the property. **Ed Mollen** added that, “It is a fire trap”. **Michael** said that **Dianne Jacob**, our former Supervisor had been very helpful on issues like this and suggested that we contact our Supervisor, **Joel Andersen**. **Kevin May** said he would contact Supervisor Andersen’s office and try to get some help.
5. CLIMATE ACTION PLAN (CAP) – UPDATE

Michael suggested we ask the County for a presentation on the CAP.
Preston Brown said he had sent information out to the group on the CAP Update.
Preston, Courtney Etnyre and **Eve Nasby** will be on the subcommittee to review it and make recommendations.

6. ASSOCIATION OF PLANNING GROUPS(APG) – Update

Kevin May presented the first draft of Paul Dombkowski’s letter to **Mario Oso**, new CEO of SANDAG, seeking to build a relationship and help him understand the urgent needs of the communities in our planning area for help with road infrastructure projects. 2.6 billion dollars has been allocated for transportation improvements for the Unincorporated areas of San Diego County and we need to have some portion of those funds used for projects in our area.

Dan Neirinckx read the letter out loud. **Courtney** asked how SANDAG got this money.

Michael said they accepted a money from a grant and have promised to spend it. Kevin added that funds have been allocated but not assigned yet. Michael said we have the problem of “passing the buck” between agencies and Departments. Caltrans will say it is the County’s problem or vice-versa. **Kevin** said this letter is going to SANDAG through the APG and Paul, as our representative. It is up to us to get their attention. **Robin Maxson**, Chair of the APG, holds 2 meetings a month and will get this letter out to the group. **Kevin** will review comments and or edits from the group.

SEE ATTACHMENT I: JDCPG Final Letter to Mario Oso, CEO, San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG)

7. JAMUL CASINO HOTEL AND ENTERTAINMENT EXPANSION PROJECT

There are no Updates.

8. “JAMUL INDIAN LAND TRANSFER ACT” H.R. 6443, Bill sponsored by **Rep. Darrel E. Issa** (R-CA-48), and associated Senate Bill S 3857, sponsored by California **Senator Alex Padilla**

Jon Parker and his wife, residents of Jamul, said they attended one of our meetings and saw our notice in the Jamul Shopper and said that there is very little information out there in the community. **Jon** believes the development of 161 acres will change the whole character of Jamul. He said he has lives here for 40 years. This will change us. I wonder if our representative here gives a dang about Jamul. This rural community will be upended and it is very sad. **Ed Mollen** encouraged **Jon** to call Joel Andersen’s office and said he thought Joel Andersen would be in our corner. **Ed** said he thought it was the Washington representatives that are behind this. **Michael** said this represents the power of Indian gaming.

Preston Brown suggested that we write a follow up letter to the Senate Indian Affairs Committee, something brief to just contact them again and let them know we are ready and available to meet and talk with them. **Kevin** said he will follow the action on the two Bills in Washington DC. **Kevin** said he called the “field representative” from Senator Padilla’s office but there has been no response.

9. PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE: Emergency Evacuation, Traffic and Crime

Darla Kasmedo said she reviewed the updated crime statistics on the Otay area of SR-94 that she received from **Michael Vargas**, CHP Captain, and the numbers were higher which is surprising. Only in a few areas did they go down. **Preston** mentioned the report of crime increase from the owner of the Jamul Hardware store and suggested we ask them to attend our next meeting with Captain **Amber Baggs**, SD Sheriff. **Lisa Hodgson** said our subcommittee should follow up and meet again with the Sheriff and CHP.

Courtney said that we could also get some information from the “Volunteer Patrol” in our community. **Darla** said that it difficult to get reports made because response times by law enforcement are slow the actual incident is no longer happening. It is hard to make the case that crime is increasing in Jamul.

10. FACEBOOK PAGE

No Updates.

11. JAMUL SHOPPER

Jon Parker asked how to access our Facebook page. **Lisa** said go into search on Facebook and type in Jamul Dulzura and it comes up. Lisa said she will put the Shopper Notice on our Facebook page. The question came up putting the Notice in the Jamul Shopper again. Kevin suggested we ask the community how they feel about this. **Eve** said we could use “Survey Monkey” through a QR code in the notice. We could keep the add and put the survey next to it and say, “We want to hear from you”. **Ed** suggested doing this on a monthly basis.

12. OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE PARK (OHV)

For more information go to the link below:

<https://www.sdparcs.org/content/sdparcs/en/park-pages/OffHighwayVehicles.html>

Lisa Hodgson posted an update on Facebook and suggested going to the link, same as above. The report is from meeting Q &A #2. The County has responded that they are looking at a number of areas on the County’s existing parklands and private land that could be added to parkland. Once selected they will know the time frame. Additional “willing to sell” letters may be sent. Not considering “imminent domain.” There are no front runners at this time. It is still very general. The map is a draft only. You can address questions to Emmet Aquino. There are no answers on what the layers on the map are. It is still cryptic.

13. JDCPG Officer’s Announcements and Reports:

- **August 20, 2024, Jamul-Dulzura Community Planning Group meeting is canceled.**
A special meeting will be called for August 21, 2024, at 7:00 pm.
- **Socially Equitable Cannabis Program -Virtual Public Meetings** (Zoom link below) to address specific topics: cannabis business ownership restrictions, license transfer guidelines, options to address the unlicensed cannabis market and minimal funding to address the illicit market.

For questions call: 858-505-6677

Tuesday, July9, 2024 at 7:00 pm

Wednesday, July 17, 2024, at 7:00 pm

Friday, July 19, 2024, at 12:00 pm

<https://sdcounty-ca.gov.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0vcumtqj8uG9RX5OHBfPbXjkti3jjFI4y>

- **Grading Ordinance Update SEIR – Public Scoping Meeting** – Thursday, July 11th at 6:00 pm.
For more info: <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/pds/ceqa/POD-21-005.html>
Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81615477712>

- **Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) for Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS) public meetings:**
 - Monday, July 15, 2024, at 3-4 pm; COC–5500 Overland Ave., San Diego, 1st Floor Training Rm. 120
 - Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at 3-4 pm; Virtual via Microsoft TEAMS*For questions regarding upcoming meetings contact Joann Lee at Joann.Lee@sdcounty.ca.gov

- **Department of Public Works** – Transportation notified us that the Jamul Community **ID signs** were replaced and installed at the following locations a few months ago:
 - Steel Canyon Rd 1340 ft. south of Jamul Heights Dr. facing south bound traffic.
 - Lyons Valley Rd 400 ft. west of MP 14.0 facing west bound traffic
 - Jamul Dr. 290ft. south of Fowler Canyon Rd facing south bound traffic.

14. ADJOURNMENT: 8:45 pm

ATTACHMENT I: JDCPG Letter to Mario Orso, CEO, San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG)

July 9, 2024

Mario Orso
CEO, San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG)
401 B Street, Suite 800
San Diego, CA 92101
mario.orso@sandag.org

JAMUL-DULZURA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP (JDCPG): Comments on Subregion Infrastructure Improvements Not Addressed in Recent 2025 SANDAG Regional Plan

Dear Mr. Orso,

To begin, the JDCPG would like to congratulate you on your selection as the new SANDAG CEO. We look forward to working with you by providing our sub-regional input through the recently implemented Association of Planning Groups (APG), now representing the Unincorporated Areas of San Diego County as a non-voting member at your SANDAG Board Meetings. As highlighted above, the JDCPG would like to provide you with our comments

relative to the 2025 SANDAG Regional Plan and the striking absence of infrastructure improvement projects in our Subregion.

We think it important to first provide a little background on our rural Subregion, so you better understand the safety and wildfire evacuation challenges we face on our major thoroughfare, SR-94, day in and day out.

The Jamul - Dulzura Subregion covers an area of approximately 168 square miles and lies on the Mexico Border immediately to the east of Chula Vista. To the north lies the Loveland Reservoir the Sweetwater River and Rancho San Diego. In the Northeastern portion, you'll find Barrett Lake and the Cleveland National Forest. SR-94, a heavily travelled 2 lane road, is our only state highway which traverses the Subregion from the northwest to the southeast ending just north of Tecate.

The population of the Subregion is over 7,000 people. It has several rural and semi-rural communities including Jamul, Steel Canyon, Dulzura and Barrett Junction. Jamul, the largest of these communities with its surrounding hills and valleys, accommodates a majority of the Subregion's population. Generally, the area is rural in character and is designated as such in our Subarea Plan. It is also restricted to Onsite Wastewater Septic Systems. For drinking water, it is dependent on well systems, except in the Northwest area of Jamul that imports water.

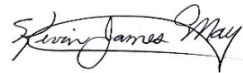
The JDCPG's main concern lies in the fact that SANDAG's 2025 Regional Plan, as well as future plans, does not address the dramatic increase of safety and wildfire evacuation risks over the last decade. At a recent SANDAG Board Meeting, we understand that you stated that \$2.6 billion has been earmarked for the projects in the Unincorporated Areas of the county. To date, we have not seen where these funds have been allocated and want to ensure that you receive our input, as we believe our SR-94 challenges are dire and need to be addressed as soon as possible. SR-94 is very vulnerable to traffic stoppages and burdened beyond capacity, especially from increased Tecate-Campo-Jamul-Rancho San Diego commuter traffic. Due to our rural character, and great variety of large conservation wilderness areas that provide recreational opportunities, we get thousands of visitors, especially on the weekends, from Coastal communities and backcountry residents. In addition, the Jamul Indian Village's Jamul Casino Hotel and Entertainment Center Expansion Project, now underway, will only increase the number of visitors traveling through our Subregion on SR-94. According to their own figures, on an average Saturday, the Jamul Casino currently receives 13,000 vehicles or VTD. This impact is strikingly evident to all of us who depend on SR-94 for all our transportation needs.

Our immediate concerns center around two project improvements with SR-94 that have been decades in the planning. First is the widening of SR-94, which today is a 2-lane highway from Tecate all the way to Rancho San Diego. It is badly needed, not only for the severe traffic issues we encounter every day, but also to assist with evacuations posed by the severe wildfire threats we face out here in the summer and into the fall. Having experienced unsuccessful wildfire evacuations in the past, it is not a question of if, but when we will be faced with another one. We must address SR-94 wildfire evacuation readiness before it's too late. Secondly, and badly

needed, are safety improvements at the SR-94/Otay Lakes Road - Honey Springs Road misaligned intersection. This intersection currently has no traffic light and due to limited lines of sight, numerous accidents and fatalities have occurred at this location. So far, we have seen very limited funding for SANDAG's Vision Zero Plan to reduce highway severe injuries and fatalities. By addressing these two immediate transportation infrastructure needs, meaningful progress would be made towards SANDAG's Vision Zero.

In closing, the JDCPG requests your support in motivating Caltrans, SANDAG and the County to take a much more proactive role and cooperative approach to resolve the unsafe and unacceptable conditions we face with SR-94 and the SR-94/Otay Lakes Road – Honey Springs Road misaligned intersection. We thank you in advance for your understanding and seek your commitment in addressing these challenges and concerns we are facing.

Respectfully,



Kevin James May

Chair, Jamul-Dulzura Community Planning Group

Email: kjmaycpg@gmail.com;

Cell: 619-987-2586

CC : Robin Joy Maxson – Chair of the Association of Planning Groups
Eileen Delaney – Vice-Chair of the Association of Planning Groups

NOTICE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

<<<<NEW STARTING TIME>>>>

Tuesday, July 16, 2024 @ 7:00 pm.

**Jamul-Dulzura Union School District - Jamul Education Center
14581 Lyons Valley Road, Jamul, CA 91935**

Hybrid Meeting: Both In-Person and Zoom Attendance

Meeting Minutes and Agendas can be accessed at
<http://www.sdcountry.ca.gov/pds/CommunityGroups.html>

We strive to protect personally identifiable information by collecting only information necessary to deliver our services. All information that may be collected becomes public record that may be subject to inspection and copying by the public, unless an exemption in law exists. In the event of a conflict between this Public Notice and any County ordinance or other law governing the County's disclosure of records, the County ordinance or other applicable law will control. Access and Correction of Personal Information. You can review any personal information collected about you. You may recommend changes to your personal information you believe is in error by submitting a written request that credibly shows the error. If you believe that your personal information is being used for a purpose other than what was intended when submitted, you may contact us. In all cases, we will take reasonable steps to verify your identity before granting access or making corrections.

JAMUL DULZURA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

MISSION STATEMENT

"The mission of the Jamul-Dulzura Community Planning Group is to represent the best interests of the communities of Jamul and Dulzura while adhering to County of San Diego, California Board of Supervisors Policy I-1."

PURPOSE STATEMENT

The purpose of the Jamul-Dulzura Community Planning Group is:

- *To provide a public forum where local citizens can learn about issues of importance to them and their community and provide input.*
- *To carefully consider all input when advising the county on such issues as planning, land use, discretionary projects, and community and sub-regional plans.*